

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

DR. HAROLD A. CARTER, SR.—A LEGACY OF PRINCIPLE AND FAITH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great American and true leader, Dr. Harold A. Carter, Sr., of Baltimore. His is a vision and a mission, grounded in the civil rights movement of the 1960s, that has compelling importance for our Nation today. More than half a century ago when Dr. Harold Carter, Sr., was still a young man in Selma, Alabama, Dr. Ralph Abernathy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., both offered Harold Carter his first opportunities to speak to their congregations as a newly ordained minister. "I was a young college student, and they wanted to give me a boost from the beginning," Dr. Carter observed in a 2005 article written by Mr. Sean Yoes of the Baltimore Afro-American newspaper. Mr. Speaker, it was a strong, inspiring, and enduring "boost," indeed. This same visionary foundation has inspired Dr. Carter throughout his ministry, both in the mission to proclaim the gospel to which he had been called and in the Social Gospel work of his faith. And I can say for a fact that not only does he preach the Word, but he lives it.

This year, Dr. Carter celebrates 45 years as the principal shepherd of Baltimore's New Shiloh Baptist Church. In his own words, he is, above all, "a God man," the primary trustee of his congregation's spiritual life. Yet at a time when our urban areas are in danger of crumbling under the stress of decades of disinvestment, Dr. Carter and his New Shiloh congregation also offer the people of Baltimore both hope and a concrete plan for social and economic renewal. A past leader of Baltimore's chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the local chapter of the Poor People's Campaign, Dr. Carter has readily acknowledged Dr. King's influence upon his vision for community renewal as an integral element of his New Shiloh ministry. "I learned from him that we have to take responsibility for our condition, whatever that might be," Dr. Carter once observed. "People in power do not concede anything to others freely, so we have to equip ourselves and do for ourselves based on the principles of unconditional love." That's Dr. Harold Carter, Sr.

Aided by the strength and talents of his wonderful wife, the late Dr. Weptanomah Carter, whom I also knew, his son and copastor, Dr. Harold A. Carter, Jr., and a dedicated con-

gregation that has grown to number in the thousands, New Shiloh is, indeed, equipping its community to move forward on empowering principles. Every day, people from the neighborhood can find inspiration and opportunity in its beautiful church and Family Life Center, its School of Music, Theological Center, Child Development Center and other facilities. These accomplishments of the congregation's Social Gospel mission are important aspects of Dr. Carter's vision, but they are far from the end. Already underway are plans for technical training for the community, a computer center, a senior center and senior housing.

Mr. Speaker, it is more appropriate under our constitutional system for me to leave it to others to commend Dr. Carter for the other wonderful ministers whom he has trained, including my own pastor, Bishop Walter Scott Thomas, Sr., and many, many others. Others are better qualified than I to attest to the lasting importance of Dr. Carter's spiritual writings, which have been many. However, I have been honored to serve as a spokesman for the Congressional Black Caucus to our Nation's faith communities, and in that duty, I have gained a thorough understanding of faith-based initiatives that are working. A part of what my teacher, my mentor and friend Dr. Harold Carter, Sr., has taught me is that the inspiration for faith-based programs that work cannot be found in a strategy to transfer public responsibility for greater social equity to the faith centers of our country. Rather, that motivating force must first arise from the hearts and minds of people of faith themselves.

This, I submit, is why Dr. Harold A. Carter, Sr., should stand as an example for all of our citizenry, whatever our respective faith traditions may be. This, I believe, is what Dr. Carter means when he speaks of how our local communities must undertake greater responsibility for themselves and their neighbors and how they must equip themselves for opportunity.

Unlike other megachurches that have left the inner cities of our Nation, New Shiloh Baptist Church has followed Dr. Carter's vision and his mission for his congregation. It has constructed its foundation on an unwavering commitment to the people of our great urban community.

RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT CALDERON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take strong exception to the speech by the President of Mexico here in this Chamber today. The Mexican Government has made it very clear for many years that it holds American sovereignty in contempt, and President Calderon's behavior as a guest of the

Congress today confirms and underscores this attitude. It is highly inappropriate for the President of Mexico to lecture Americans on American immigration law, just as it would be for Americans to lecture Mexico on its own laws. It is obvious that President Calderon does not understand the nature of America or the purpose of our immigration law. Unlike Mexico's immigration law, which is brutally exclusionary, the purpose of America's law is not to keep people out. It is to assure that as people come to the United States, they do so with the intention of becoming Americans and of raising their children as Americans. Unlike Mexico, our Nation embraces legal immigration, and what makes that possible is assimilation.

A century ago, President Teddy Roosevelt put it this way. He said, "In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet an American and nothing but an American. There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag. We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language. And we have room for but one sole loyalty, and that is a loyalty to the American people." That is how we've created one great Nation from all the peoples of the world.

The largest group of immigrants now comes from Mexico. A recent RAND study found that during the 20th century, while our immigration laws were actually enforced, assimilation worked, and it made possible the swift attainment of the American Dream for millions of immigrants seeking to escape the conditions of Mexico. That is the broader meaning of our Nation's motto, "e pluribus unum"—from many people, one people, the American people. But there is now an element in our political structure that seeks to undermine that concept of e pluribus unum. It seeks to hyphenate Americans, to develop linguistic divisions, to assign rights and preferences based on race and ethnicity, and to elevate devotion to foreign ideologies and traditions while at the same time denigrating American culture, American values, and American founding principles. In order to do so, they know that they have to stop the process of assimilation. And in order to do that, they have to undermine our immigration laws. It is an outrage that a foreign head of state would appear in this Chamber and actively seek to do so. And it is a disgrace that he would be cheered on from the left wing of the White House and from many Democrats here in Congress.